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Calleen Anderegg's dreams came true in 138's 'Gypsy'

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Chronicle Staff

As she stands before the mirror in her moment of triumph, wearing a beautiful, shimmering gown, Calleen Anderegg says, "Mamma, I'm pretty," and realizes a dream she has taken with her through many different roles in the glamour world, that of playing the part of Gypsy Rose Lee in the musical "Gypsy."

Ever since hearing the "Gypsy" theme music as the introduction to

a rock-and-roll show she danced in every day for two years in Dallas, Texas, the thought of playing the part has captured her imagination. When Ariel Baliff told her a year ago that she would be good for the part in his production this summer at Theatre 138, Calleen waited anxiously.

Calleen Anderegg is not pushing for the top like most local actresses. She likes the mountains and the changing seasons of Salt Lake City and is not eager to move into the

bowels of New York or any other super city. It's not that she couldn't, either. Anyone who has seen her performance in the musical would know her talent is there and ready to be used.

At one time, it seemed she was headed for the big time. Calleen went from one "glamour" to another, including becoming Miss Dallas and third runner up in the Miss Texas contest. She was a stewardess for a year, did commercials and sang in night clubs before getting married and changing her ideas as to what she wanted in life.

After coming back to Salt Lake where she grew up, Calleen gradually made her way into the entertainment of the valley, appearing at Promised Valley Playhouse, Pioneer Memorial Theater and playing Fran in "Promises, Promises" at Theatre 138. Calleen will finish the run of Gypsy this week with performances Wednesday through Saturday at 8:30 p.m. and a matinee Saturday at 2 p.m.

She was preparing to go to school in ballet at the University after having received the William Christensen Scholarship given once a year to a deserving ballet student. But, according to Calleen, Gordon Paxman, chairman of the department, suddenly changed his mind and took the scholarship away.

"I went in to talk to Mr. Paxman and he found out I was 26, divorced and supporting a child. He said he wished the auditions had been



Calleen Anderegg, star of Theatre 138's production of "Gypsy," has dreamed for years of playing the part.

screened better and I wasn't what they wanted," Calleen said.

She now works in a local restaurant and is looking for a means by which she can finish school. The ideal life for her would be to be able to earn a living performing, not in clubs, but dancing and singing in musicals. Calleen thinks that if she can finish school, she might have something to fall

back on, perhaps teaching.

As for ambition, Calleen Anderegg isn't desperately reaching out for each rung of the success ladder and there are no specific engagements planned in the immediate future. However, as she put it, "If it happens, wonderful. I know I could do it, but I like where I am, too."

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Joni Mitchell gig cancelled

The Joni Mitchell concert scheduled for this Friday at Park City has been cancelled due to what a spokesman at United Bookings said are problems

stemming from Joni Mitchell's management. United says that none of these problems are the responsibility of Ms. Mitchell or the people handling the concert for Park City. Ac-

ording to them, it has nothing to do with the "type of audiences concerts have been drawing recently in Park City."

The status of the concert was actually in doubt until late Monday afternoon because the promoters were talking with the Mitchell management and the concert was reported to be still a possibility.

Several stories came out from reliable sources that she or her management did not want to play Park City because it was not the place for her to appear.

It was also reported that she was ill and could not appear. However, this was disputed by sources who cited a contract clause which limits the number of days allowed prior to a concert for a performer to pull out without losing money. However, no official word on the reasons for the cancellation other than the United Bookings' statement was given.

2,500 tickets have been sold and the spokesman said they had expected up to 6,000 or more. Refunds will be made only at the outlets where the particular tickets were purchased. They will be available Tuesday morning.

More information will be available when United has a chance to talk more with Mitchell's management. "Joni Mitchell is a beautiful lady. She knows how I run a concert and what the situation is here. She has given a concert here before and the problems in this case have nothing to do with her," the spokesman said.



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